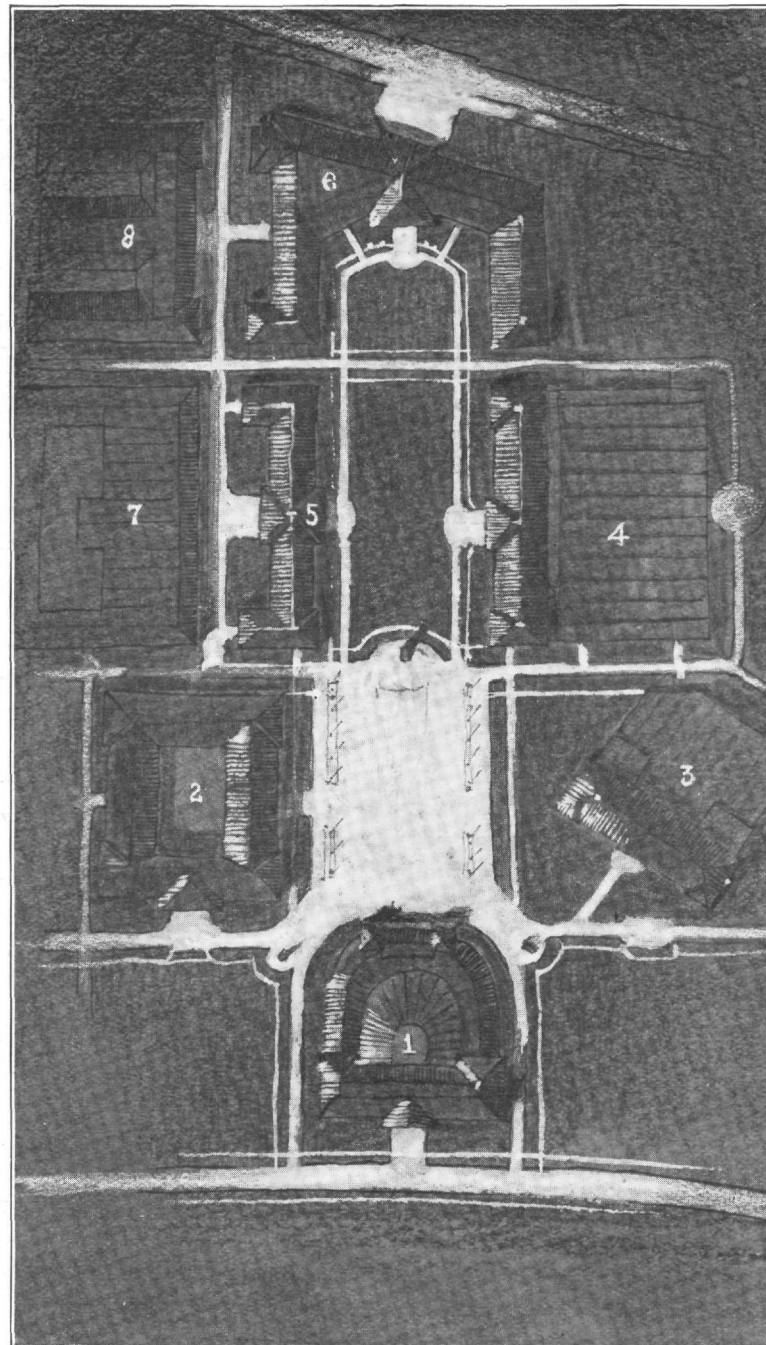


The Knowledge Bank at The Ohio State University

Ohio State Engineer

Title:	An Enlarged Group of Engineering Buildings Proposed for the Campus
Creators:	Smith, Howard Dwight
Issue Date:	May-1919
Publisher:	Ohio State University, College of Engineering
Citation:	Ohio State Engineer, vol. 2, no. 1 (May, 1919), 16-17.
URI:	http://hdl.handle.net/1811/33968
Appears in Collections:	Ohio State Engineer: Volume 2, no. 1 (May, 1919)



PROPOSED ENGINEERING GROUP ON THE NORTH SIDE OF CAMPUS—THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

1. Present Chemistry Building with proposed semi-circular addition to the north.
2. Brown Hall, completed as originally planned around a square interior court, over the site now occupied by the condensation pool east of the boiler house.
3. Lord Hall, present headquarters of the College of Engineering.
4. New Chemistry Building, consisting of a recitation and lecture building facing the new Engineering quadrangle, with one story laboratory space to the rear. It is the north half of this one story portion which is to be erected during the Summer and Fall of 1919.
5. Proposed new building for Mechanical and Electrical Engineering recitation and lecture rooms.
6. Proposed building for the headquarters of the College of Engineering and the State Engineering Experiment Station.
7. Present Robinson Laboratory for Mechanical and Electrical Engineering.
8. Present University Shop Building.

An Enlarged Group of Engineering Buildings Proposed for the Campus

By HOWARD DWIGHT SMITH.

On April 18, 1913, the State Legislature passed an act authorizing the organization at the University of an Engineering Experimental Station. This act was approved by Governor Cox on May 6th of the same year. Its first section reads as follows:

"Sec. 7961-1. That the Board of Trustees of the Ohio State University be, and are hereby authorized and required to establish an organization to be known as the engineering experiment station of the Ohio State University, to be affiliated and operated in connection with the college of engineering."

The need for such an important institution has been well established and recognized in this State. The agriculturists have had facilities for experimental and research work for years, much to the advantage of the State at large, as well as to themselves. The field of engineering and industry can be similarly benefited to equally great advantage to the State. It is the aim of this law to authorize the supply for this demand.

In Cleveland during the middle week in April the Ohio Association of the American Institute of Architects passed resolutions urging the organization of this State for the facilities it would offer for structural experiments and tests, and for the stimulation of original ideas and methods in building.

Other organizations and representative interests are similarly interested, and it is with a view to meeting this demand that a building to house such an Experiment Station has been made the nucleus of a group of buildings. This group of buildings will be an expansion of the present assemblage of buildings devoted to engineering, northwest of the center of the campus.

With the approval of the Board of Trustees, the University Architect's Office has made a complete study of the layout of this group, combining and correlating with it all the present buildings. The plan involves a number of interesting features, not the least unimportant of which is that a definite quadrangle will be given over to the College of Engineering, a quadrangle whose north and south axis passes through the Chemistry Building and extending from that building to Woodruff Avenue.

The urgent need of new quarters for Chemical Engineering and Industrial Chemistry and

for the general expansion of all the work in Chemistry has led to the immediate realization of a part of the approved scheme. It is sufficient here to say that ultimately that department will give over their present building for general or specific recitation purposes and be wholly housed within the east building of the new group in the edge of the woods north of Lord Hall. There is a strong probability that an auditorium of quite fair size will be placed adjoining the rear of the present chemistry building, with an ideal semi-circular plan, as suggested in the accompanying sketch. The remodeled chemistry building when abandoned by the Chemistry Department will be the most desirable recitation building on the campus, due to its central location.

North of this semi-circular addition and in the broad open space between Brown Hall (greatly enlarged) and Lord Hall will be a large open quadrangle to the north of which will extend the new court. This court will be flanked on the east by the new Chemistry Building in the edge of the woods, on the west by a corresponding new building in front of Robinson Laboratory, on the site now occupied by the Barracks, for the expansion of the Mechanical and Electrical Departments.

At the head of the new court is the building proposed for the Engineers' Experiment Station. This building has the advantage of facing both on the new court and on Woodruff Avenue to the north as well. This is particularly fitting inasmuch as it will be a more public building, perhaps, than any of the others of the group.

The establishment of a definite axis and center for engineering activities on the campus is a part of the well determined plan to correlate and regulate the constant expansion of our physical plant. Only by this means are we able to maintain simplicity of organization amidst such a complexity of activities and fields of endeavor into which the University has been rushing. The College of Agriculture has already happily realized the opportunities in planning a definite program ahead and now the engineers are following with the nucleus of a building program which will, perhaps, be a long time in materializing but which offers a definite goal toward which to work. The University Architect's Office is prepared to meet building problems as they come up and to regulate progress toward this goal.